1986 Edition

Gourmets of the Southwest

Belen, NM

GIL'S BAKERY AND DINING ROOM, *Exit 195, Belen*

On our way into Gil's we ran into the proprietor of the Belen Sugar Bowl Bowling Lanes, who assured us that Gil's is and always was *the* place to eat in Belen, especially if you've got a sweet tooth. We believed him. We wanted to crawl into the bakery cases and embrace the chocolate doughnuts, cream puffs, eclairs, cherry danish, banana bread, coffee cake, cinnamon buns, and cheese turnovers, but settled for a seat within arm's reach of the bear claws (filled with blueberries and pecans). Watching the old boys gobble matchstick fries and burgers, served straight or with chile, cheese, and bacon, we knew Gil's was our kind of place.

Since it was our first meal of the day, we stuck to the breakfast selections (served all day) and decided on Gil's Breakfast Sandwich, an English muffin stacked with sausage, cheese, and an egg, and served with hashbrowns ($2.35) that puts the chain restaurant's McVersion to shame. Another breakfast order brought huevos rancheros: a house tortilla topped with eggs that peeped through the smoking hot green chile like double suns. Served with a side of toast, skillet-fried hashbrowns, and beans, it's an overwhelming platterful of food for $3.

Gil's menu includes everything from steaks and chops to broiled halibut and fried shrimp ($7.95–$9.95), but you shouldn't leave without at least one sticky bun in your pocket; on second thought, it's wise to cough up the extra 15 cents for a box to put it in.

Gil Sanchez himself (that's him wearing glasses and center-parted hair) presides over the pale-green, clean, but spare dining room. Only three decorative touches—an immense calendar, a portrait of JFK, and a painting of yucca in flower—compete with the glories of the bakery cases. There is a second dining room, but the best view in the house is of the sweets and the cigar boxes filled with plastic brides and grooms, football players, happy faces, and hunters.

HOURS Tues.–Sun. 6:30 am–5:30 pm. Closed Mon.

SPECS 239 No. Main; (505) 864-3636; no credit cards; no bar.

DIRECTIONS **Southbound:** Take Exit 195 as it becomes Business 25 and curves south into town as Main St. Main St. parallels I-25 for 4½

BHC-2-1-32-1

miles to Gil's, on the the right. To return to I-25 south, continue along Business 25/Main south 2 miles.

Northbound: Take the first exit for Belen (if you miss it, you'll have to backtrack in from north of town, as above). Drive into town on Business 25/Main 2 miles to Gil's, on the left. Return to I-25 by continuing north along Main until it reconnects with the interstate in 4½ miles. You will be parallel to I-25.

THE FRONTIER RESTAURANT,

Exits 224A & 224B, Albuquerque

"Oh, they've got the best hot-buttered cinnamon rolls in captivity," a friend gushed when we mentioned the possibility of visiting the Frontier. Well, we don't know of any wild cinnamon rolls, but her endorsement sent us to this University of New Mexico hangout across the street from the Johnson Gymnasium.

Over the years this expansive short-order diner has won a place in the history of the UNM community. It is justifiably famous for its hot cinnamon rolls coated with a topping of melted margarine and sugar (72 cents). Sweet and soft, the roll practically spills over the side of its plate; accompanied by fresh-squeezed orange juice (75 cents to $1.50), it serves as a daily meal for hundreds from UNM and hangers-on who keep the Frontier hoppin' all day and half the night. We were mesmerized by the Rube Goldberg machinery that automatically slices and squeezes whole oranges in one sweeping motion.

The rest of the fare is standard counter food: eggs, pancakes, huevos rancheros, and omelette breakfasts ($1.95 to $3.25 with coffee or tea); a variety of hamburgers and sandwiches from grilled cheese (95 cents) to Bonanza (a double cheeseburger with all the trimmings, $2.45); and Mexican dishes highlighted by the green chile stew (three sizes, 65 cents to $1.50).

Much of the Frontier's popularity comes from an atmosphere that at first glance appears to be sterile, with its place-your-order-pay-and-pick-up production line. But after watching the crowd for a while, a pattern emerges: artsy types and families congregate in the no-smoking dining room or the quiet back room with

BHHC-21-32-2

Gil's

DINING ROOM
COFFEE SHOP
and BAKERY

PRIVATE BANQUET ROOM
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BELEN, NEW MEXICO

HISTORY

Belen was founded in 1741 by two Spaniards who petitioned for and received a large grant of land known as Nuestra Senora de Belen (Our Lady of Belen). Belen is the Spanish word for Bethlehem. The site of Belen being an important strategic point, the Spanish authorities established a fort here in 1780. This fort was manned by a citizens' army and served to protect the people from the Indians, particularly from a large settlement of Apaches which covered the area of Sabinal just south of Belen as late as the close of the 18th century. Belen experienced its last Indian raid in 1864 when the Navajos swept down on the town, stealing and driving off cows, goats and sheep and taking some captives. The captives were later exchanged for Indians whom had been captured by the Spaniards living in Belen.

The Catholic Church had missions all over this country very early and there are ruins of a church known as the "Pueblo de Altos Ruins" just six miles south of Belen, which are fairly authentically dated as having been an Indian Mission in 1608.

The first Anglo people began settling in Belen in early 1870's. They were mostly of German descent and were forefathers of many of the present business men in Belen. They established the first Protestant Church.

1880, when the great Santa Fe Railroad system opened a new railroad through the town, prosperity started on its march. Seventeen years later, the Santa Fe opened the cut-off or east-west line, making Belen its 'Hub City' and also one of the greatest railroad centers in New Mexico.

Belen is also the "Hub City" because of its central location in the state. On its modern highways, one can venture out to discover towering mountains, primeval forests and rugged deserts with their reminders of the glorious past.

The population of Belen in 1890 was 685 — today it is about 8600. It serves a trade territory of 20,000 people. Its economic stability is based on a diversification of industrial, agricultural and business enterprises.

Tourist Attractions: Belen is circled by Indian Pueblos, the fabulous "Golden Cities of Cibola." Those "Cities That Died of Fear" are Gran Quivira and Abo, the grandeur of architecture and setting in these ruins may be seen by a few hours drive. The Pueblos of Isleta Sandia, San Felipe and Santo Domingo are north of Belen and are still inhabited. Isleta is just 20 miles from Belen. To the west is Laguna Pueblo and Acoma, the "Sky City," located on a butte more than 300 feet above the mesa floor. Both of these are also inhabited.

Mountains: The Manzano Mountains just east of Belen offer extensive picnic facilities and hiking. Trigo Canyon is being developed by the Forest Service as a recreational area which can be reached by a graded road.

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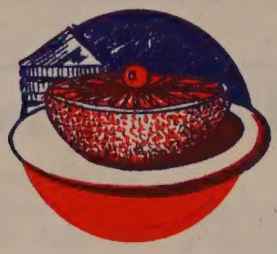
Housewares — Gift Wares

THREE BLOCKS SOUTH FROM GIL'S BAKERY

Good Morning!

Breakfast

FRUITS AND JUICES



Orange Juice 20c
Large 35c
Tomato Juice 20c
Large 35c

Cantaloupe (in Season) 35c
Grapefruit (Half) 30c
Stewed Prunes 35c

TOAST AND DOUGHNUTS

Doughnuts 10c
Sweet Rolls 15c
Cinnamon Toast 30c

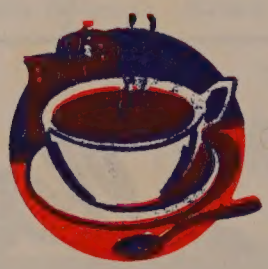
Milk Toast 40c
Toast, Dry or Buttered 20c
French Toast 60c

Butter with Sweet Rolls or Doughnuts — 3c Extra

FRESH CRISP CEREALS OR OATMEAL

With Milk — 40c with Half and Half — 45c

BEVERAGES



Fresh Hot Coffee 10c
Chocolate Milk 15c
Pop 15c
Shakes 40c

Malts 45c
Milk or Buttermilk 15c
Hot or Iced Tea 15c
Hot Chocolate 15c

Sanka or Postum 15c

Start the Day with a Good Breakfast!

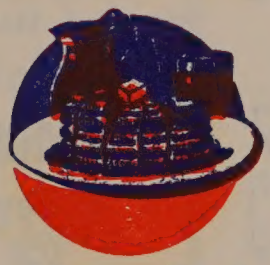
Blueberry Hot Cakes (2) with Ham, Bacon or Sausage
Fresh Hot Coffee $1.25

BREAKFAST SUGGESTIONS

Two Eggs, Ham, Bacon or Sausage	$1.25
Two Eggs (Any Style)	95c
One Pork Chop with Two Eggs	$1.55
One Egg with Bacon, Ham or Sausage	$1.00
One Pork Chop with One Egg	$1.25
Breakfast Steak with One Egg	$1.50
One Egg (Any Style)	75c
Huevos Rancheros (2)	$1.10

Above Orders Include Potatoes, Toast and Coffee

HOT CAKES



Hot Cakes (3)	50c	Buckwheat Cakes (2)	40c
Hot Cakes (2)	40c	Buckwheat Cakes (3)	50c

SIDE ORDERS

Ham	55c	Sausage	55c
Bacon	55c	One Egg	25c

BELEN, NEW MEXICO

The Transportation Hub of the State

Belen, New Mexico's Hub City, is a good small town of approximately 7,500 persons. Its citizens are good, wholesome, neighborly people that enjoy the better things of life. People that believe that business can be successful and the community can promote those features which add to the joy of living all in the same effort. You will find them progressive and friendly.

Its location in the heart of the Rio Grande Valley assures a comfortable mean between that of the higher mountain elevations and the lower plains regions. Cool summer nights and mild winters make its climate ideal for the health seeker as well as the agricultural producer.

Commercially, Belen has the complement of sound retail establishments, hotels, restaurants, and theatres. It has a tri-weekly newspaper, bank with deposits exceeding $9,000,000, a hospital and other medical and dental facilities. Public utilities consist of natural gas, electric power, dial telephone service and an abundant supply of the softest water in the state. The city's economic stability however, is not dependent upon any one factor but rather upon the diversification of industrial, agricultural and business enterprise. Belen serves a trade territory estimated at 20,000 population and is the largest town in Valencia County.

The County has a population of 35,000 people.

The civic pride and fraternal spirit of Belen's citizens is evidenced by the keen interest and active participation in its many organizations including the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Lions, Pilot Club, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters, Eastern Star, Masonic Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Pythian Sisters, Boy and Girl Scouts, Railroad Brotherhoods and Auxiliaries, numerous 4-H Clubs, a Future Farmers of America Chapter, three veterans organizations and a church for almost every person's needs.

Belen's prosperity is evidenced in many ways, but outstanding proof is exhibited by its residential areas where comfortable and attractive homes line its well shaded streets. Spanish and ranch-style architecture lend themselves admirably to this particular area and contribute much towards enhancing the beauty of its homes, schools and public buildings.

Belen as a community dates back to 1741 and Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church, the oldest institution in the community, was established in 1793. The word Belen means Bethlehem.

New Mexico is the Land of Enchantment and Belen is the Hub from which you can venture out to discover an ever changing panorama of vast mesa and towering mountains, of primeval forest and rugged desert, of arid plain and fertile valley to fish and hunt or just enjoy the fascination of the area.

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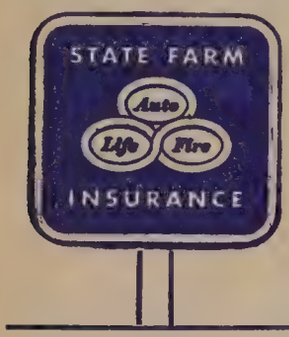

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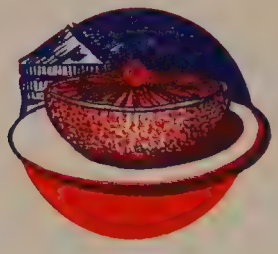
Good Morning!

Breakfast

FRUITS AND JUICES



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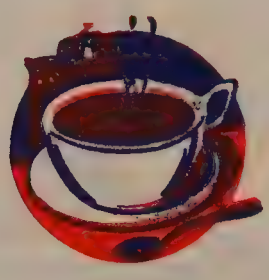

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Blueberry Hot Cakes (2) with Ham, Bacon or Sausage
Fresh Hot Coffee $1.25

BREAKFAST SUGGESTIONS

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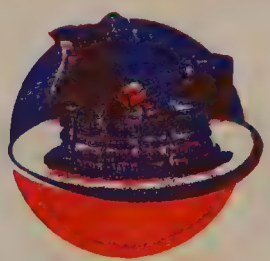

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- PRIVATE GROUPS
- FAMILY DINNERS

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BELEN, NEW MEXICO

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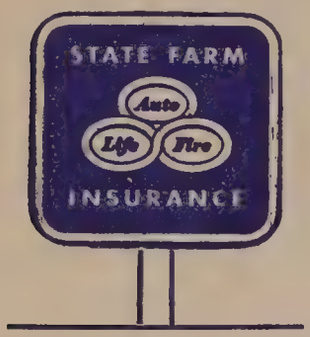

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BELEN, NEW MEXICO

HISTORY

Belen was founded in 1741 by two Spaniards who petitioned for and received a large grant of land known as Nuestra Senora de Belen (Our Lady of Belen). Belen is the Spanish word for Bethlehem. The site of Belen being an important strategic point, the Spanish authorities established a fort here in 1780. This fort was manned by a citizens' army and served to protect the people from the Indians, particularly from a large settlement of Apaches which covered the area of Sabinal just south of Belen as late as the close of the 18th century. Belen experienced its last Indian raid in 1864 when the Navajos swept down on the town, stealing and driving off cows, goats and sheep and taking some captives. The captives were later exchanged for Indians whom had been captured by the Spaniards living in Belen.

The Catholic Church had missions all over this country very early and there are ruins of a church known as the "Pueblo de Altos Ruins" just six miles south of Belen, which are fairly authentically dated as having been an Indian Mission in 1608.

The first Anglo people began settling in Belen in early 1870's. They were mostly of German descent and were forefathers of many of the present business men in Belen. They established the first Protestant Church.

1880, when the great Santa Fe Railroad system opened a new railroad through the town, prosperity started on its march. Seventeen years later, the Santa Fe opened the cut-off or east-west line, making Belen its 'Hub City' and also one of the greatest railroad centers in New Mexico.

Belen is also the "Hub City" because of its central location in the state. On its modern highways, one can venture out to discover towering mountains, primeval forests and rugged deserts with their reminders of the glorious past.

The population of Belen in 1890 was 685 — today it is about 8600. It serves a trade territory of 20,000 people. Its economic stability is based on a diversification of industrial, agricultural and business enterprises.

Tourist Attractions: Belen is circled by Indian Pueblos, the fabulous "Golden Cities of Cibola." Those "Cities That Died of Fear" are Gran Quivira and Abo, the grandeur of architecture and setting in these ruins may be seen by a few hours drive. The Pueblos of Isleta Sandia, San Felipe and Santo Domingo are north of Belen and are still inhabited. Isleta is just 20 miles from Belen. To the west is Laguna Pueblo and Acoma, the "Sky City," located on a butte more than 300 feet above the mesa floor. Both of these are also inhabited.

Mountains: The Manzano Mountains just east of Belen offer extensive picnic facilities and hiking. Trigo Canyon is being developed by the Forest Service as a recreational area which can be reached by a graded road.

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Clothing — Shoes — Dry Goods — Furniture

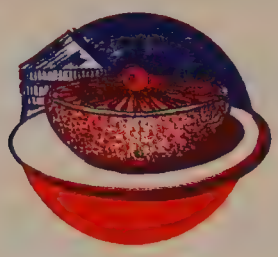
Housewares — Gift Wares

THREE BLOCKS SOUTH FROM GIL'S BAKERY

Good Morning!

Breakfast

FRUITS AND JUICES



Orange Juice 20c
Large 35c
Tomato Juice 20c
Large 35c

Cantaloupe (in Season) 35c
Grapefruit (Half) 30c
Stewed Prunes 35c

TOAST AND DOUGHNUTS

Doughnuts 10c
Sweet Rolls 15c
Cinnamon Toast 30c

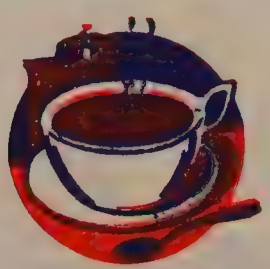
Milk Toast 40c
Toast, Dry or Buttered 20c
French Toast 60c

Butter with Sweet Rolls or Doughnuts — 3c Extra

FRESH CRISP CEREALS OR OATMEAL

With Milk — 40c with Half and Half — 45c

BEVERAGES



Fresh Hot Coffee 10c
Chocolate Milk 15c
Pop 15c
Shakes 40c

Malts 45c
Milk or Buttermilk 15c
Hot or Iced Tea 15c
Hot Chocolate 15c

Sanka or Postum 15c

Start the Day with a Good Breakfast!

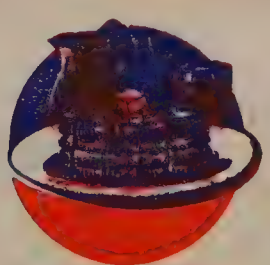
Blueberry Hot Cakes (2) with Ham, Bacon or Sausage
Fresh Hot Coffee $1.25

BREAKFAST SUGGESTIONS

Two Eggs, Ham, Bacon or Sausage	$1.25
Two Eggs (Any Style)	95c
One Pork Chop with Two Eggs	$1.55
One Egg with Bacon, Ham or Sausage	$1.00
One Pork Chop with One Egg	$1.25
Breakfast Steak with One Egg	$1.50
One Egg (Any Style)	75c
Huevos Rancheros (2)	$1.10

Above Orders Include Potatoes, Toast and Coffee

HOT CAKES



lot Cakes (3)	50c	Buckwheat Cakes (2)	40c
lot Cakes (2)	40c	Buckwheat Cakes (3)	50c

SIDE ORDERS

lam	55c	Sausage	55c
acon	55c	One Egg	25c

BELEN, NEW MEXICO

The Transportation Hub of the State

Belen, New Mexico's Hub City, is a good small town of approximately 7,500 persons. Its citizens are good, wholesome, neighborly people that enjoy the better things of life. People that believe that business can be successful and the community can promote those features which add to the joy of living all in the same effort. You will find them progressive and friendly.

Its location in the heart of the Rio Grande Valley assures a comfortable mean between that of the higher mountain elevations and the lower plains regions. Cool summer nights and mild winters make its climate ideal for the health seeker as well as the agricultural producer.

Commercially, Belen has the complement of sound retail establishments, hotels, restaurants, and theatres. It has a tri-weekly newspaper, bank with deposits exceeding $9,000,000, a hospital and other medical and dental facilities. Public utilities consist of natural gas, electric power, dial telephone service and an abundant supply of the softest water in the state. The city's economic stability however, is not dependent upon any one factor but rather upon the diversification of industrial, agricultural and business enterprise. Belen serves a trade territory estimated at 20,000 population and is the largest town in Valencia County.

The County has a population of 35,000 people.

The civic pride and fraternal spirit of Belen's citizens is evidenced by the keen interest and active participation in its many organizations including the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Lions, Pilot Club, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters, Eastern Star, Masonic Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Pythian Sisters, Boy and Girl Scouts, Railroad Brotherhoods and Auxiliaries, numerous 4-H Clubs, a Future Farmers of America Chapter, three veterans organizations and a church for almost every person's needs.

Belen's prosperity is evidenced in many ways, but outstanding proof is exhibited by its residential areas where comfortable and attractive homes line its well shaded streets. Spanish and ranch-style architecture lend themselves admirably to this particular area and contribute much towards enhancing the beauty of its homes, schools and public buildings.

Belen as a community dates back to 1741 and Our Lady of Belen Catholic Church, the oldest institution in the community, was established in 1793. The word Belen means Bethlehem.

New Mexico is the Land of Enchantment and Belen is the Hub from which you can venture out to discover an ever changing panorama of vast mesa and towering mountains, of primeval forest and rugged desert, of arid plain and fertile valley to fish and hunt or just enjoy the fascination of the area.

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Underpad and Installation Included
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Monuments Markers

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- CLUB MEETINGS
- PRIVATE GROUPS
- FAMILY DINNERS

Gil's

DINING ROOM, COFFEE SHOP AND BAKERY

BHC 2-1-32-5

KID PICNICKERS—This was part of the gang of kids which gathered at the Belen Fairgrounds last week for the annual kids picnic sponsored by Gil's Bakery. Fernando Salaz, master of ceremonies, is shown at the loud speaker, under the edge of the building, trying to get in a word of information to the more than 800 children and 200 parents who assembled for the occasion. The sticks were used for cooking weiners. (Photo by Anthony).

Belen War Bride Finds London Filling Up With Prefab Houses

By Norma Jean Berry

"I was happy to have seen my folks and my home, but I also am very glad to return to my husband and good old Belen," was the comment of Mrs. Iggy (Rose) Garcia upon her return to Belen recently after a three month visit in London, England with her parents and brothers and sisters.

This was the British war bride's first visit back to her former home since she left in January of 1946 to come to America, and more particularly to Belen, to make her home with her American husband. Of London, she remarks, "The town looked just about the same except for so many little prefabricated houses. These were among the first lendlease supplies sent to England by the United States. They stand only about six feet high but have every convenience."

According to Mrs. Garcia, building is booming right now. Another thing she noticed was that more English shows are being shown now than American, which were practically a fad during the war.

"The food situation was, according to our way of living, pretty bad," she said. "Everything is rationed. Meat and fats are very scarce although not too

Carnahan-Anderson Wedding 3 p.m. Sunday

The wedding of Miss Georgia Louise Carnahan and Dick Anderson will take place at 3 p. m. Sunday afternoon at the Federated Church. The time was changed from 4:30 as previously planned, Mrs. Carnahan said today.

Miss Carnahan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Carnahan of Belen. Mr. Anderson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Earling A. Anderson, Belen.

Friends are invited to attend.

—o—

Chavez-Sanchez Vows Exchanged August 6

Miss Juanita Chavez, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Romaldo Chavez, Belen and David Sanchez, son of Mr. and Mrs. Juan S. Sanchez, Adelino were married Aug. 6 in Our Lady of Belen church by Father John Castillo.

The bride's white gown featured a long train. Her bouquet was of pink and white carnations.

Attendants were Mr. and Mrs. Andres Garcia of Belen. Mrs. Garcia wore a yellow floor

TEST YOUR I. Q.

1. When was the first news agency established in this country?
2. Where was the first "modern, first-class hotel" in the United States?

3. When was the first fountain-pen patent granted?
4. What was the name of the first women's college to confer degrees?
5. When was West Point established?

See Answers on page 16

—o—

New Mexico ranchers participating in the Agricultural Conservation Program have constructed 18,000 miles of fence since 1940 when the development began.

—o—

BHHC-2-7-32

Gil's Bakery